

Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA)
109th Annual Conference
May 31 through June 3, 2015
Philadelphia, PA

Reported by
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This year's Governmental Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) Annual Conference *Innovation and Resilience* was held in Philadelphia, PA, the City of Brotherly Love.

The GFOA is registered with the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) as a sponsor of continuing professional education on the National Registry of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Sponsors.

This year's conference was held in the Pennsylvania Convention Center, located within walking distance of most of the hotels and historical landmarks for which Philadelphia is famous.

There were 59 breakout sessions that had a variety of subjects to choose from in: Accounting and Financial Reporting; Budgeting and Financial Planning; CIP/Economic Development; Debt Management; Financial Management; Pension and Benefit Administration; Technology; and Treasury Management. The sessions assist with obtaining knowledge on how to implement statements on governmental accounting standards that are created by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

The main subjects this year were: lease accounting; implementing the U. S. Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) new "Super Circular" on auditing federal grants; implementation of GASB's new guidance on fair value; investing; and GASB Statements 67 and 68, the new pension standards that MPERA has been implementing for the past few years.

The annual convention is a great place to network with peers. I have made acquaintances with most of the people from Minnesota, one of them being the newly seated President of the GFOA this year. Being able to build strong bonds and friendships is a great way to network and be able to gain knowledge from the people who perform similar jobs.

Thank you for the opportunity in allowing me to participate in this education annually. This is a worthwhile educational opportunity for me in my career as the Financial Reporting Accountant at MPERA.